# An Evaluation of the Carbon Sequestration Potential of the Cambro-Ordovician Strata of the Illinois and Michigan Basins

Hannes E. Leetaru, Principal Investigator Illinois State Geological Survey

Co-Pl's

Dave Harris, Kentucky Geological Survey

Dave Barnes, Western Michigan University

John Rupp, Indiana Geological Survey

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**Research Participants** 

Illinois State Geological Survey
Kentucky Geological Survey
Indiana Geological Survey
Western Michigan University
Illinois DCEO

Schlumberger Carbon Services

Brigham Young University

Kentucky Consortium for Carbon Storage

Seismic Reservoir 2020

#### Acknowledgements

 Project will be funded by the U.S. Department of Energy through the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) and by a cost share agreement with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Coal Development through the Illinois Clean Coal Institute

#### Budget

- Total budget of over 6 million dollars
- Including
  - \$4,949,999 from US Department of Energy
  - \$250,000 from Illinois DCEO
  - \$152,000 in-kind from ConocoPhillips
  - \$140,000 from Western Kentucky Carbon Storage Foundation
  - \$70,000 from Seismic Reservoir 2020
  - Additional cost share from state surveys and universities

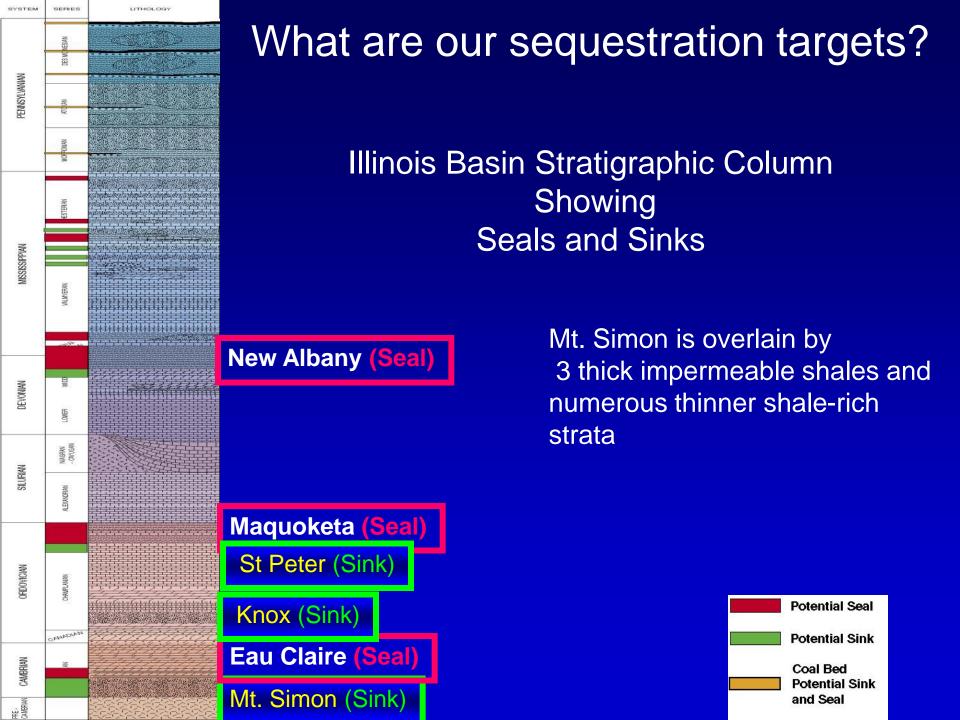
#### Objective

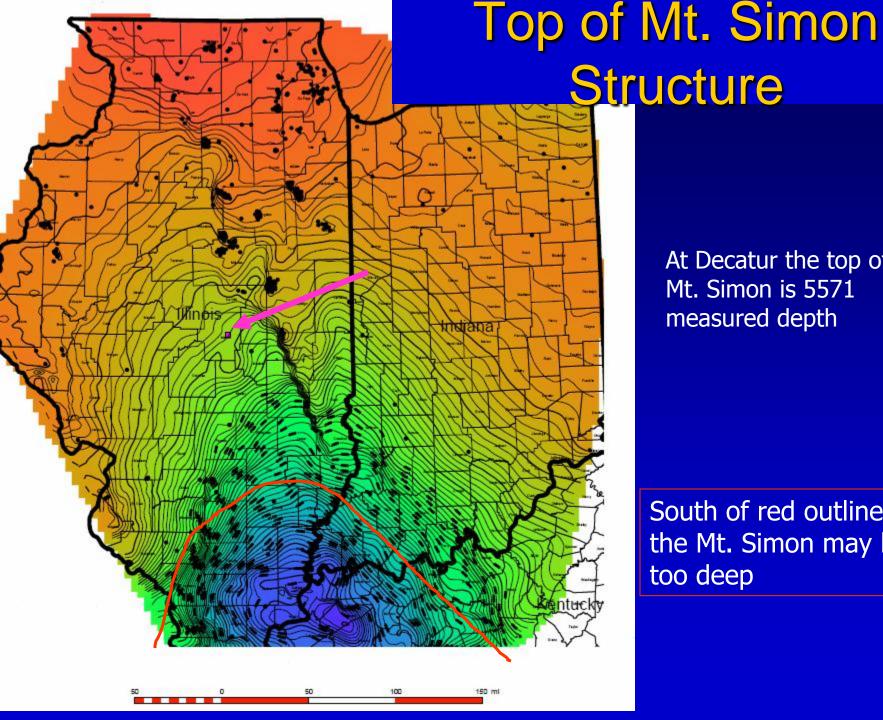
 Characterize new areas for sequestration in southern Illinois, southern Indiana, western Kentucky, and Michigan,

particularly where the Mount Simon Sandstone is not a viable injection target.

#### Why do the study?

- Mt. Simon has limited sequestration potential in southern Illinois and western Kentucky
- Limited field experiments or detailed studies have been conducted on the potential of the carbonate Knox Supergroup, St. Peter Sandstone, and the Maquoketa Shale.

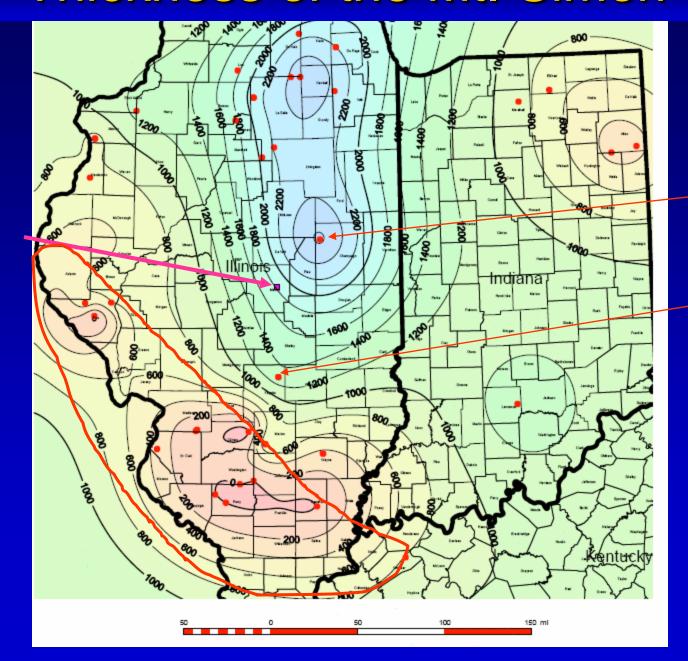




At Decatur the top of the Mt. Simon is 5571 measured depth

South of red outline the Mt. Simon may be too deep

#### Thickness of the Mt. Simon Sandstone

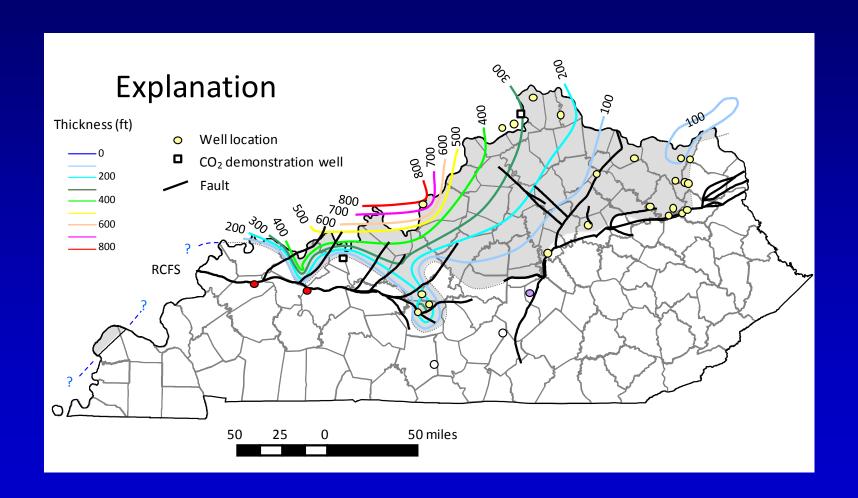


Hinton #7
penetrated 2600
feet of Mt. Simon

Wells with Precambrian granite

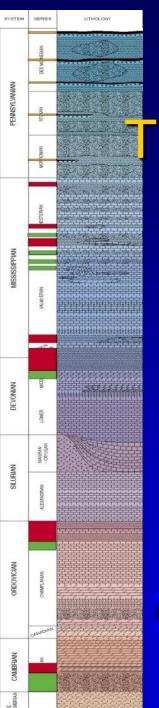
Mt. Simon may be too thin within the red outline

#### Mount Simon Thickness, Kentucky



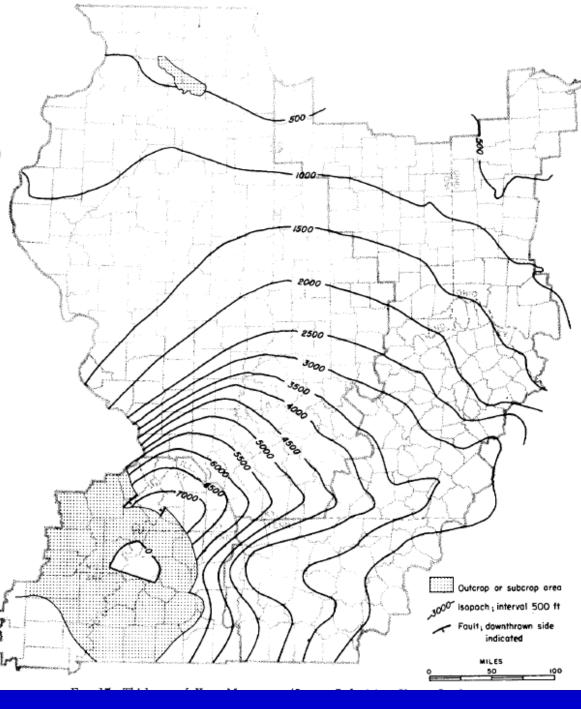
#### Why the Knox and St. Peter?

- Knox is regionally widespread at supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> depths, yet shallower than the Mount Simon
- Evidence for significant porosity in the Knox, although in thinner, more complex reservoir units
- St. Peter Sandstone has significant thickness and porosity in the Michigan Basin; but has not been characterized in detail by partnerships

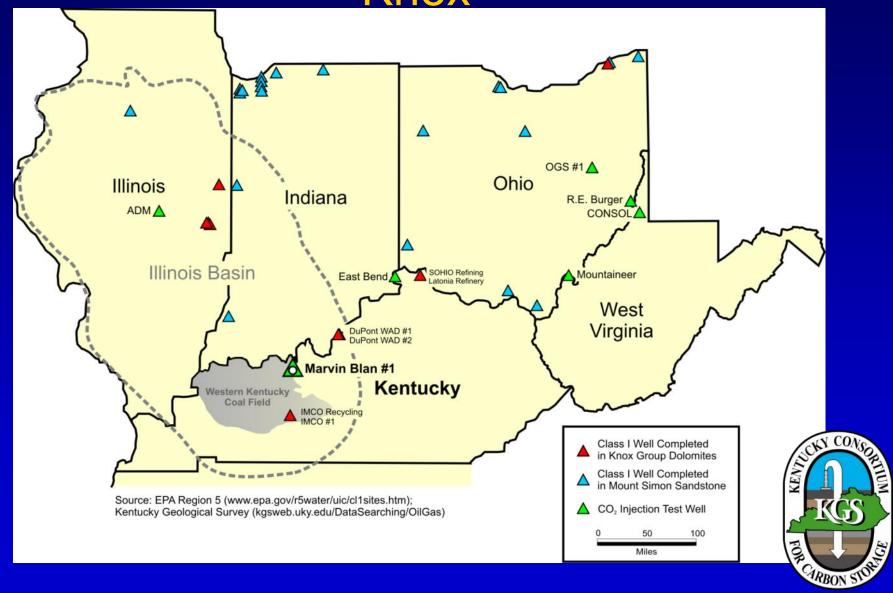


Knox Thickness

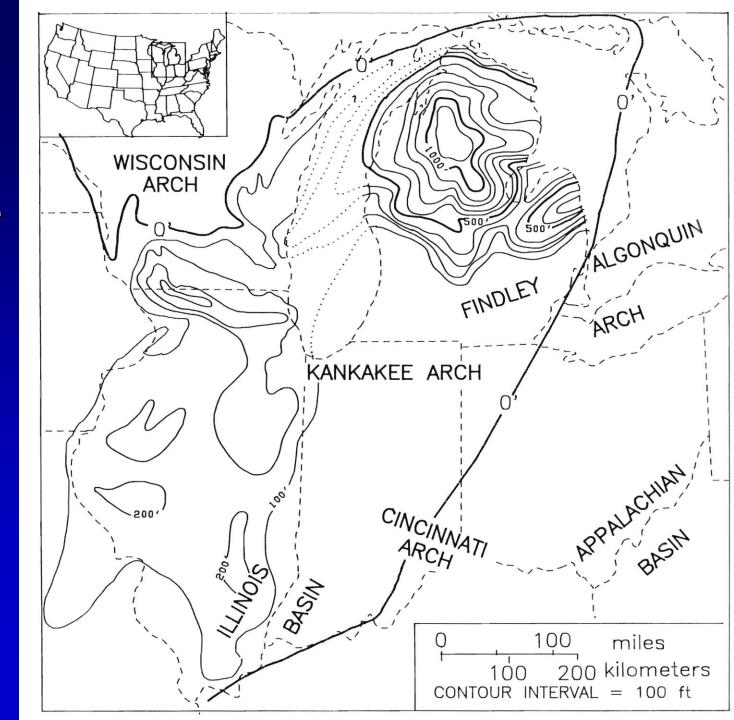
Knox

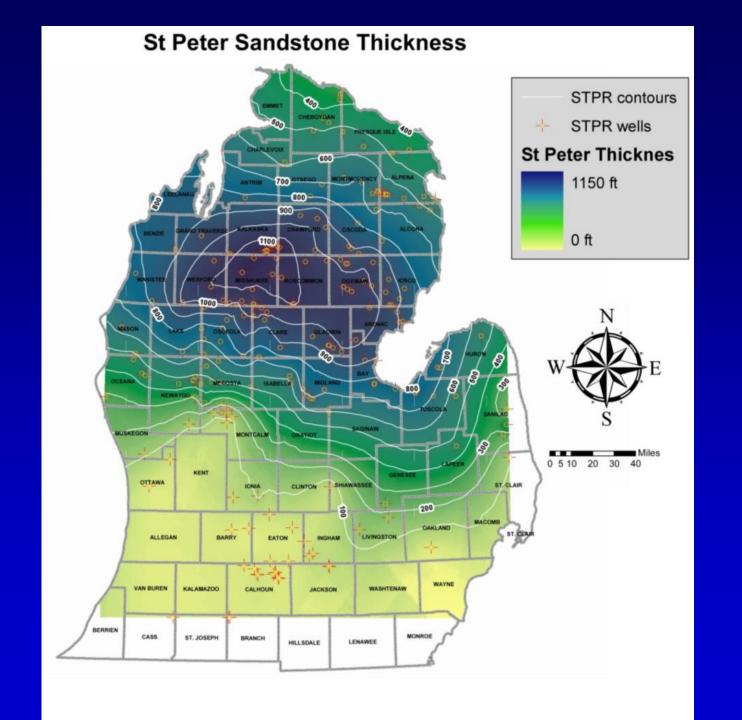


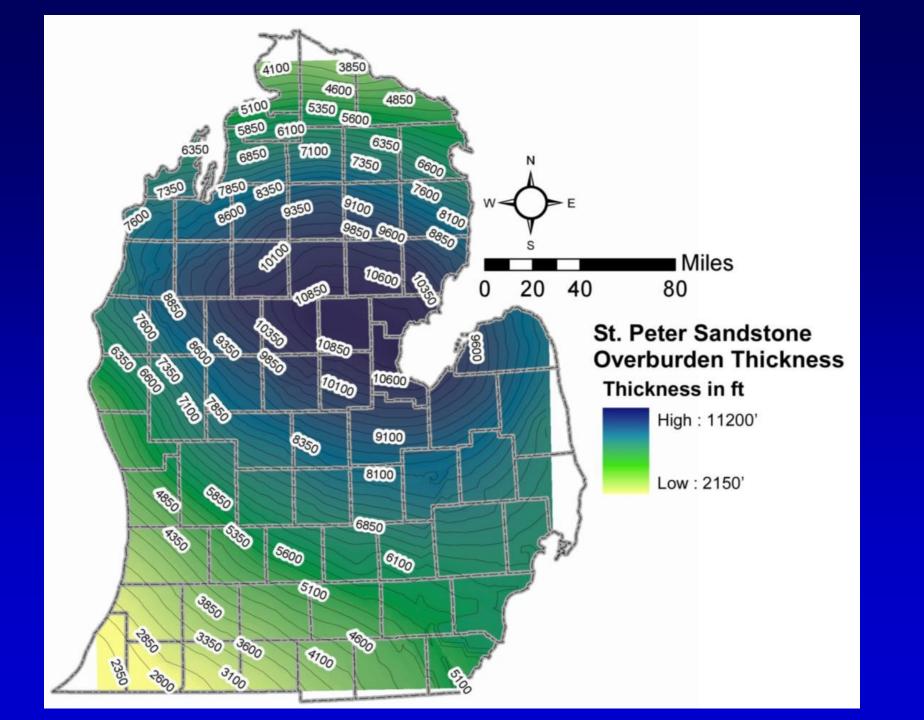
## Waste Injection Wells In Ky Use the Knox



#### Regional St. Peter Sandstone Thickness

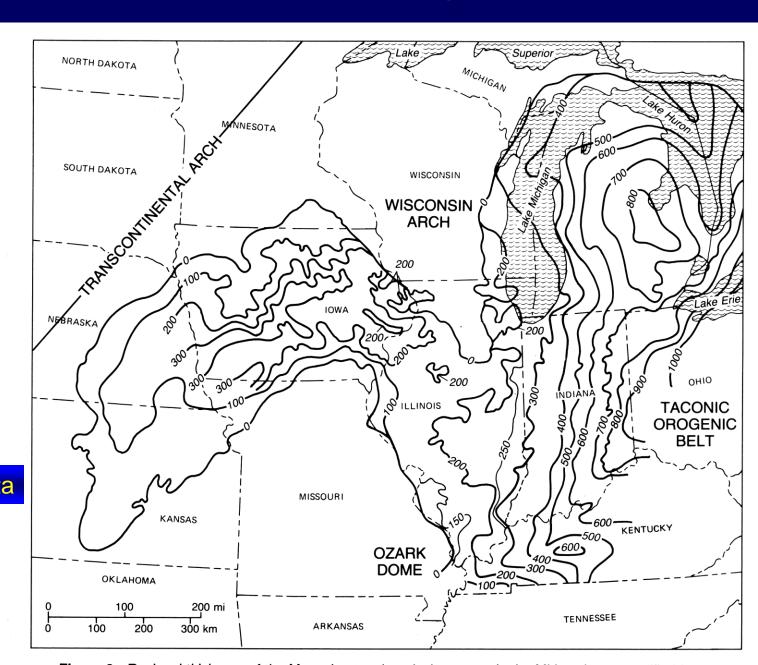






# Maquoketa

#### Thickness of Maquoketa



#### Project Implementation

- Knox Supergroup
  - New core and log data, Decatur, Illinois
  - New injection testing, and 3D VSP acquisition, existing well in Hancock County, Ky.
  - Seismic interpretation, geochemical modeling, flow modeling, seal analysis, core interpretation with new and exisiting data
- St. Peter Sandstone
  - Interpretation of existing data (no new data acquired)

#### Year 1 Tasks

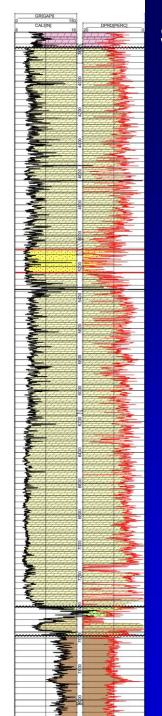
- Compilation of regional database
- Acquire whole core of Knox and Maquoketa from the Phase III monitoring well at Decatur in Illinois
  - 60 ft Maquoketa Shale (seal)
  - 2–30 ft cores in the Knox (seal and reservoir)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of CO<sub>2</sub> injection tests into the Knox in the KYCCS Hancock Co., Ky. well
- 3D VSP in Hancock County well

#### Year 1 Tasks (cont.)

 Regional characterization of Knox and St. Peter Sandstone stratigraphy, structure, thickness, and reservoir quality

# Western Kentucky Project Area





St. Peter Sandstone (6" thick)

**Upper Knox dolostones** 

**Gunter Sandstone** 

Deep stratigraphic units, KGS #1 Blan well, Hancock Co.

**Lower Knox dolostones** 

Eau Claire Fm. (Mt. Simon Sandstone absent)

**Precambrian Middle Run Formation (red sandstone/siltstone)** 

#### Blan Well Summary

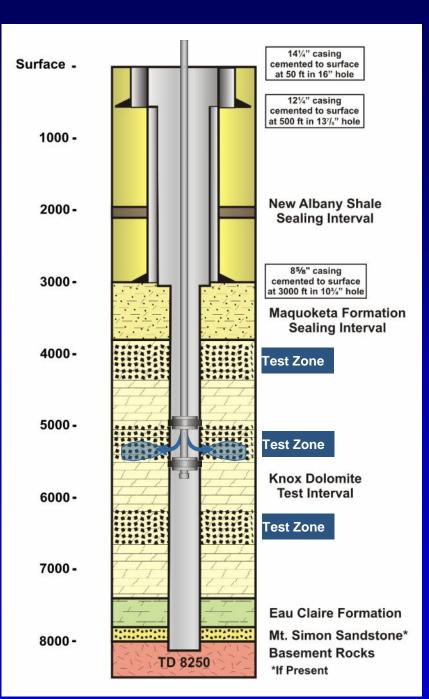
- Open-hole completion from Knox down
- Over 23,000 bbl water injected into the Knox; 323 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> injected at high rate
- Dual porosity system indicated
- Data set includes 2D seismic, zero-offset VSP, complete logs w/ FMI, fm brine samples, 395 ft core, PLT logs, temperature decay logs

#### KGS #1 Blan Research Well





**Photo: Brandon Nuttall** 



#### Testing Program



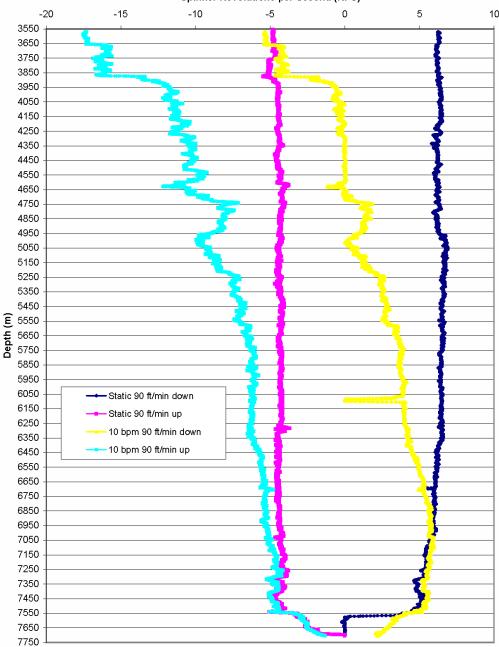


#### Plan B

- Set a single packer, test thick open-hole intervals
  - 6,089–7,460: 1,371 ft zone: 7,200 bwpd,
     1510 psi buildup
  - 3,620–7,460: 3,840 ft zone: 14,450 bwpd,250 psi buildup
- Good data from these tests
- Techniques used to ID permeable zones
  - Spinner, pressure and temperature decay logs

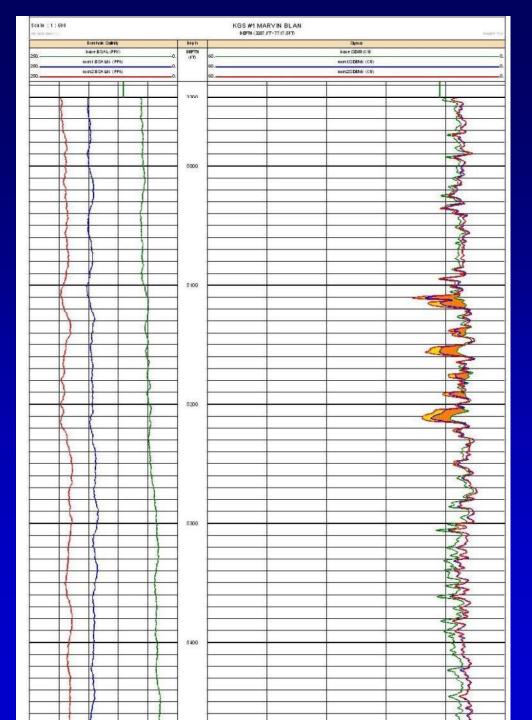
#### KGS Marvin Blan #1 90 ft/min Spinner Survey Passes August 10, 2009





# Spinner Survey Data During Brine Injection





### **Boron Solution Used as a Tracer**

3,175 bbl. of boron (borax) solution injected, traced with pulsed neutron logging during/after injection

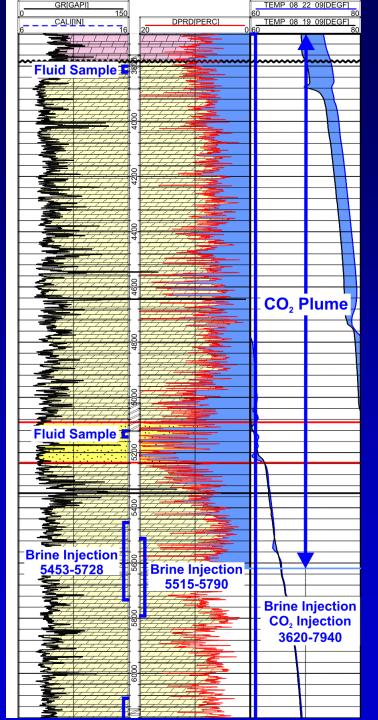


7 lb/bbl borax decahydrate



#### Blan CO<sub>2</sub> Injection

- CO<sub>2</sub> injected into entire open hole interval w/ packer set in casing @ 3,603'
- 1,765 bbl CO<sub>2</sub> (323 tons) injected at a constant rate of 4 bpm
- Final injection BHP=1754 psi and BHT=103°
- Temperature logs run before and after
   CO<sub>2</sub> injection to attempt to identify zones



Pre- and post-CO<sub>2</sub> injection temperature logs indicate CO<sub>2</sub> entered over upper 2,000 ft interval

#### Year 2 Tasks

- Regional capacity estimates and injectivity of the 2 formations
  - CO<sub>2</sub> injectivity of the St. Peter derived from gas storage data
  - Numerical flow simulation for Knox & St. Peter
- Diagenetic studies on Knox cores from Hancock County and Decatur
- Seal analysis, geomechanical studies,
   Maquoketa cores, II. and Ky.

#### Year 2 Tasks (cont.)

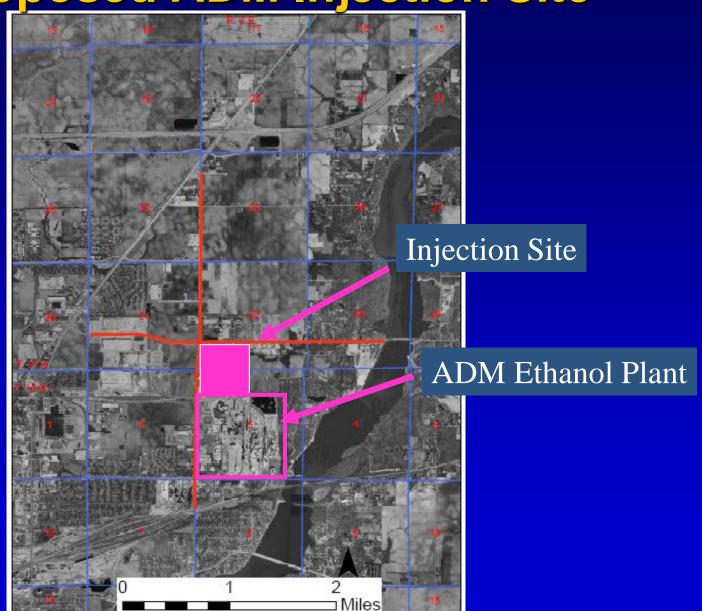
- CO<sub>2</sub> reactions with brine and rock
  - Modeling using brine chemistry and core data from Hancock Co. and Decatur
- Seismic inversion modeling using 2D datasets in Kentucky and 3D dataset from Decatur to improve porosity prediction



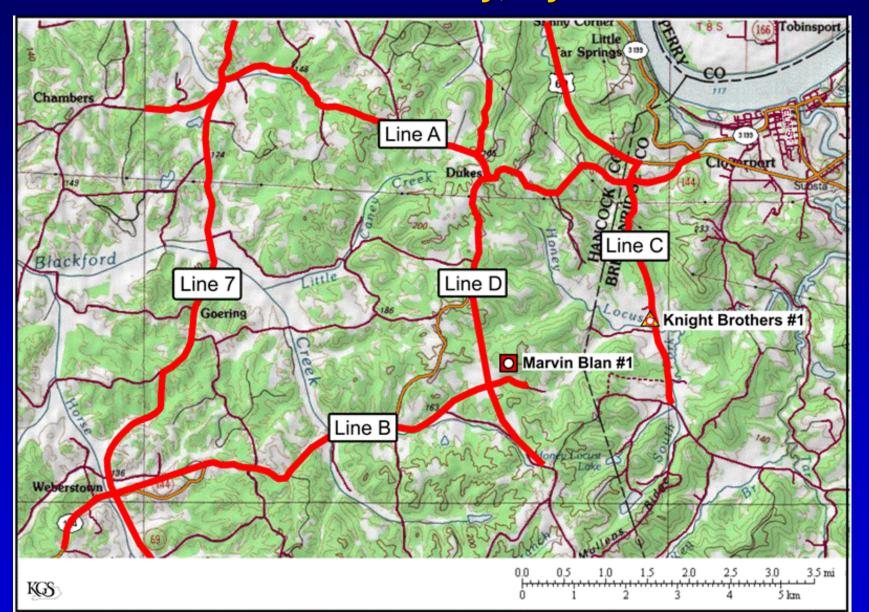
#### **Knox Dolomite Cores**

- Knox Dolomite was cored in three intervals (total 243 ft) to test reservoir properties
  - "St Peter"-Beekmantown (123 ft)
  - Beekmantown-Gunter (101 ft)
  - Copper Ridge (19 ft)
  - Found porosity system to be a complex of preserved fabric, primary dolomite porosity, vugs, and fractures
- Extensive analysis program
  - Routine core analysis
  - Mechanical properties
  - XRD mineralogy
  - CO<sub>2</sub> core flood
  - Threshold entry pressure

Seismic Reflection Across the Proposed ADM Injection Site



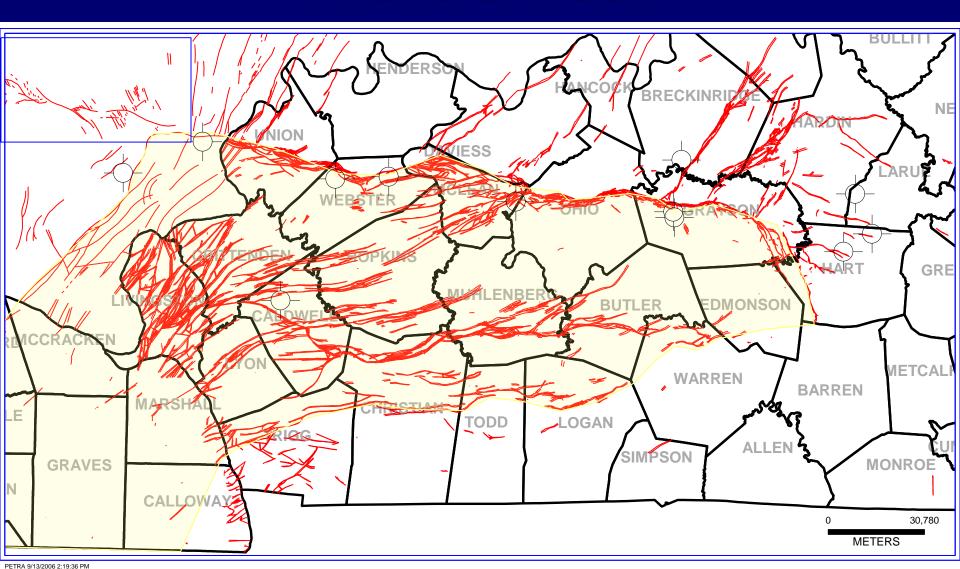
#### 24 miles 2D seismic acquired by WesternGeco in Hancock County, Ky. area



#### Year 3 Tasks

- Leakage pathway characterization
  - Knox fracture analysis
  - Fault seal risk assessment, western Ky.
- Complete a best practice manual
- Create GIS layers of high and low potential areas
- Site risk assessment

# Faulting in Western Kentucky: Friend or Foe?



#### **Ultimate Goal**

 Define fairways where the Knox and the St. Peter reservoirs would be good sequestration targets